

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

2944

NO.

DATE

June 1987

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

Chief, Operations Group

22 Jul

B

R
3 JB
J

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3.

Chief, E&PS

7/28

PR

4.

O/Director, FBIS

7/28

C

5.

Director, FBIS

29 July

Rw

6.

PO-RA/E&PS

7/29

Om

7.

C/ESG

7/30

RHS

8.

C/FED

7/31

J

9.

C/ADD

7/31

M

10.

C/HED

8/2

B/H

11.

Chief, Admin Staff

12.

Chief, Analysis Group

7/8

m

13.

Admin Staff

14.

15.

Exec. Reg.



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
SEOUL BUREAU



MSK-7012
3 July 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Seoul Bureau - June 1987

I. GENERAL

1. June was the most tumultuous month in ROK domestic politics in several years. Public unrest following unpopular government decisions on constitutional revision, and revelations of a high-level cover-up of facts in the torture death of a student in January, led to street demonstrations that began in earnest on 10 June and continued until the 28th. Thousands participated in Seoul and many other cities. For the first time in years, there was extensive middle class participation in the street rallies in addition to the usual throngs of university students. Ralliers and riot police faced off in numerous confrontations, with students throwing rocks and molotov cocktails and police responding with massive amounts of teargas. Several demonstrations took place in downtown Seoul not far from the Embassy, and on two occasions the Embassy closed early to enable employees to leave the area before rallies got underway. Bureau operations throughout the month were unaffected, though all employees became more intimately acquainted with teargas than they might have wished. The demonstrations finally ended late in the month after the ruling DJP made sweeping concessions to opposition demands.

The demonstrations were very widespread and there was considerable violence, but considering the number of participants relatively few deaths and serious injuries have been reported. At times the confrontations seemed almost festive, with neither side interested in inflicting serious injuries on the other. Police used a great deal of teargas, at times so heavily that clouds of it were visible for blocks, like low-lying fog, but they never resorted to clubs or other more physical weapons. Embassy officers witnessed one incident on the 26th in which police and demonstrators cooperated with each other, without apparent rancor, in clearing a busy street so traffic could pass only a few minutes after engaging in a serious exchange of teargas and molotov cocktails.

The Bureau filed nearly 250,000 words from South Korean media during the month, most of it related to the political crisis. Pyongyang's reaction to the situation was also of considerable interest to local

reporting officers as well as Headquarters analysts. Pyongyang television carried long segments on the South, including more footage on the demonstrations than was shown on ROK or U.S. Armed Forces television. The Bureau prepared a videotape of some of Pyongyang's coverage, which was shown to three different groups of Embassy officers.

2. General Louis C. Menetrey arrived in Seoul on 22 June and replaced General William Livsey on the 25th as Commander of U.S. Forces in Korea. The Bureau Chief participated in an Embassy briefing for General Menetrey on the 24th, which was largely devoted to domestic unrest in the ROK. Stan Brooks, the new Deputy Chief of Mission, also arrived on the 22nd. He will visit the Bureau for an orientation and briefing on 10 July.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. The political crisis in the ROK dominated Bureau operations throughout the month. Local consumers, the BBC, and FBIS Headquarters all requested full coverage and prompt processing of material on the crisis from the ROK media. The local press for the most part ignored censorship rules that have been in effect for years, publishing many articles that were critical of the government, the ruling DJP or the police. The Bureau filed nearly 250,000 words from Seoul radio and newspapers, an increase of about 150,000 over wordage filed during an "average" month. ✓

2. The major event in the DPRK during the month was the 9-13 June extraordinary ministerial conference of Nonaligned Countries on South-South Cooperation. A number of Third World ministers and dignitaries attended the meeting, and Pyongyang media carried speeches by most of the delegates. The major document adopted at the conference was the "Pyongyang Declaration and Plan of Action on South-South Cooperation." Long processing backlogs were common as monitors and editors worked through voluminous material on the Nonaligned Conference as well as items of more urgent interest on events in the South.

3. At Headquarters request the Bureau placed subscriptions to several Seoul vernacular newspapers and journals during June. The Bureau then mails the papers to NEAD several times a week. This gets the material to NEAD much faster than is possible through subscriptions placed in the United States directly with the publications.

B. Technical

During a visit by Okinawa Bureau Engineer [] the Bureau began using a new antenna at Camp Humphreys. [] and Deputy Chief [] went to Camp Humphreys on the 16th to talk with Signals Maintenance personnel and lay the groundwork for use of the antenna, which has been under construction for nearly a year. [] and Chief Technician [] then returned to Camp Humphreys several times to do necessary technical work. The present configuration is temporary, and arrangements are now being made to install multicouplers on the antenna to give the Bureau permanent access to nearly all of the antenna's 360-degree directional capability. Initial reception checks indicate that we can

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expect some improvement in coverage of PRC regional stations and the North Korean clandestine Voice of National Salvation.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. Senior Editor [] left Seoul on 10 June for home leave and PCS reassignment at FBIS Headquarters.

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2. Administrative Assistant [] was on R&R in Hawaii from 15 June until 2 July.

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3. After nearly a year of recruiting, interviewing, testing, and waiting for the gears of U.S., ROK and Japanese bureaucracy to mesh, final paperwork was received during June clearing two Korean/Japanese monitors hired in Seoul to travel to Okinawa for employment. One of the new monitors, [] plans to leave for Okinawa on 6 July. The other, [] is expected to leave toward the end of July.

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IV. VISITS

1. Okinawa Bureau Engineer [] from 15-23 June to assist in Bureau tie-ins with a new antenna at Camp Humphreys, and for routine inspection as part of his regional engineer responsibilities.

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2. [] who is attached to Evan Hineman's staff, visited the Bureau on 22 June. [] was in Seoul as part of an inspection tour of other facilities in the Far East.

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Chief, Seoul Bureau

Attachment

Monthly Production Report

cc: Acting Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

Seoul Bureau Production Report for June 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	730650
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	162360
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1714

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	13265.00	5510.00	100.23
(minutes or issues per week)	min.	min.	issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

CHINA

Beijing International service in Korean to Korea	2900	
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	620	
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	9110	
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	10850	
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	10350	
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	12350	
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	5810	
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	1170	
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	0	
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese		10850
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in Chinese		5800
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese		3550
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese		8250
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese		0
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese		6350
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese		16090

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in Chinese			17420
Yonbyon YONBYON ILBO in Korean			600
CLANDESTINE (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea	30200		
KOREA (NORTH)			
Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	161680		
Pyongyang Television Service in Korean	200		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		151920	
Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean			15900
Pyongyang NODONG SINMUN in Korean			0
KOREA (SOUTH)			
Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	7940		
Seoul Television Service in Korean	0		
Seoul YONHAP in English		32970	
Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean			15920
Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean			7800
Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media Korean			0
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			9600
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean			1100
Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean			2130
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English			51080
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English			106290
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			12450
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow International Service in Korean	1400		